



This document is one section from the EPA "Fiscal Year 2004 Superfund Annual Report," published in September 2005. The reference number is EPA 540-R-05-001 and OSWER Directive 9200.2-51. The entire document can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/action/process/fy2004.htm>.

FY 2004 SUPERFUND ANNUAL REPORT

September 2005

II. Fiscal Year 2004 Superfund Program Accomplishments⁶

Financial Resources

In each of the past five years, Congress appropriated on average \$1.3 billion for the Superfund program, and private party commitments for future response work averaged an additional \$0.9 billion. Over the same five-year period, the Department of Energy spent on average \$2.5 billion for site remediation. The Department of Defense spent slightly less during the same period, with almost \$2 billion for similar work.

EPA continued to prioritize sites to receive cleanup funding. EPA also encouraged innovative public and private financing. The Superfund program spent \$507 million for construction and post-construction activities and for cleanup and oversight of 385 emergency response and removal actions to address threats to the community.

In FY 2004, Superfund accomplishments included:

- EPA securing \$680 million in cleanup commitments and cost recoveries from the parties responsible for toxic waste sites;
- EPA achieving 66 settlements with funds designated for special accounts, 15 de minimis settlements, and seven orphan share settlements; and
- agreements with responsible parties to initiate more than two-thirds of remedial actions or long-term cleanup started during FY 2004.

FOX RIVER SITE REGION 5, WISCONSIN

Responsible parties agreed under an Administrative Order on Consent to perform remedial design and remedial action or long-term cleanup. The work, estimated to cost approximately \$60 million, is the first major step toward cleanup of the approximately 65,000 pounds of PCBs located in the sediment of the [Fox River](#). The dredging work under this consent decree began in September 2004.

EL MONTE AND SAN GABRIEL VALLEY SITES REGION 9, CALIFORNIA

EPA reached a settlement with 27 companies for a \$40 million cleanup of a 10-square-mile ground water plume in the [San Gabriel Valley](#) of Los Angeles County. The San Gabriel Basin ground water aquifer (an underground geological formation, or group of formations, containing water and capable of supplying water to springs or wells) and springs underlie most of the San Gabriel Valley and is the primary source of water for most of the Basin's one million residents. Contamination in the San Gabriel Valley has severely and adversely impacted numerous public water supply wells, forcing water purveyors to shut down wells or construct new treatment systems.

Under the consent decree, the settling parties will construct and operate treatment systems to address various contaminants, including volatile organic compounds and, if needed, perchlorate. In addition, the companies will reimburse EPA for approximately \$2 million in response costs.

⁶ Please see *Appendix A for the "Superfund National Accomplishments Summary" for a full list of accomplishments for FY 2004.*

Protecting Human Health and the Environment

The Superfund program met or exceeded the Agency's FY 2004 annual and multiyear Strategic Plan/Government Performance and Results Act goals for human health and ground water protection. Assuming current land and ground water uses, 83 percent of Superfund sites listed before FY 2003 (1,242 of 1,493 sites with human health exposures) met human health indicators, meaning that current actual and potential human exposures are under control. EPA is conducting further study or cleanup work at the remaining sites. Additionally, 67 percent of Superfund sites (875 of 1,306 ground water affected sites) met ground water protection indicators, having addressed the migration of contaminated ground water through engineered remedies or natural processes. EPA is either conducting further study or cleanup work at the remaining 33 percent of sites.

Superfund continues to list sites on the National Priorities List. During FY 2004, EPA added 11 new sites and proposed 26 others to the National Priorities List. All appropriate responses were implemented and no further cleanup was required at 19 sites, allowing EPA to delete 16 sites (including four Federal facilities) from the National Priorities List and partially delete three other sites.

At the end of FY 2004:

- 67 percent of the sites listed on the National Priorities List (1,024 of 1,529 sites) had final cleanup plans selected,
- 61 percent of the sites on the National Priorities List (926 of 1,529 sites) had construction of the remedy complete,
- with the available resources, EPA began 27 new construction projects and continued 458 construction projects at 345 non-Federal facility National Priorities List sites, and
- 450 ongoing studies and 278 ongoing construction projects were underway at Federal facilities on the National Priorities List.

FORMER LANDFILL REUSED AS A SPORTS COMPLEX

[Neville Island's](#) newly built Sports Complex includes two indoor ice rinks, a golf training facility and miniature golf course. The sports complex increases employment opportunities, enhances the community, and protects drinking water sources.

Neville Island:

- was a 32-acre Ohio River Park site in Neville Island, PA, used as an industrial landfill from the 1930s through 1960s;
- caused widespread contamination of surface water, ground water, and soil; and
- was completed in 1998.

900TH CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION

[Solitron Microwave](#), a 20-acre site in Port Salerno, FL, was used for plating and manufacturing processes:

- contained 12 private wells with contaminant levels above drinking water standards;
- added to the National Priorities List in 1998;
- completed construction in 2004; and
- redeveloped into an industrial park.

385 REMOVAL ACTION STARTS IN FY 2004

- 182 removal action starts undertaken by the Fund;
- 175 removal action starts undertaken by responsible parties;
 - 62 starts by responsible parties pursuant to a Federal enforcement action;
 - 113 starts by responsible parties with no enforcement instruments; and
- 28 removal action starts at Federal facilities.

Through investigation and cleanup, the Superfund program identified nearly 420 Superfund sites with land available for reuse. These sites (the majority of which are National Priorities List sites) comprise more than 244,000 acres, of which 52,000 (21 percent) are available for residential uses and 192,000 (79 percent) are available for nonresidential uses.

Responding and Preparing for Emergencies

EPA continued to strengthen its emergency preparedness and response capability, particularly for homeland security. During FY 2004, EPA collaborated with Federal partners to improve the incident command system across public and private sectors; provided Federal assistance to States (at the discretion of the Federal Emergency Management Agency); and, as a member of the Catastrophic Disaster Response Group, developed national policy and guidance on response coordination and emergency support issues.

Federal Facilities

The Government made progress in protecting human health and the environment at many Federal facility sites. In FY 2004, the Federal government (for the sites on the National Priorities List:

- issued 90 cleanup decision documents for Federal facilities,
- selected final remedies at 9 sites,
- entered into four interagency and Federal facility agreements at Federal facilities,
- completed 28 Five-Year Reviews, and
- designated 9,000 acres of land on non-base closure Federal facilities and an additional 80,000 acres of land on Base Realignment and Closure properties, with a cumulative total of over 400,000 acres rated available for reuse.

SAFE TRANSPORT OF WASTE TO DISPOSAL FACILITIES

- Through the end of FY 2004, over five million tons of waste were safely transported and disposed of at the Environmental Remediation Disposal Facility.
- The [Waste Isolation Pilot Plant](#) safely received and disposed of 18,300 cubic meters of transuranic (artificially made, radioactive element, such as neptunium, plutonium, americium, and others, that has an atomic number higher than uranium in the periodic table of elements) and weapons-grade nuclear waste.
- More than 2,300 shipments of waste destined for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant traveled more than 2.4 million highway miles with no significant incident.

5,000-ACRES TRANSFERRED TO U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

- The [Rocky Mountain Arsenal](#) (RMA) is a former weapons production facility near Denver, CO.
- The transferred land established the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge.
- To facilitate the land transfer, EPA deleted over 5,000 acres of the RMA from the National Priorities List.
- Once cleanup is complete, the Department of the Interior will designate the 27,000-acre site an urban wildlife refuge.

REMEDATION PLANS FOR FEDERAL FACILITIES REMAIN ON SCHEDULE

- In [Oak Ridge](#), TN, more than 98,000 cubic meters of waste were disposed of and land was transferred to the city by the Department of Energy.
- The [F-Canyon Facility](#) at the Savannah River Site began decontamination and decommissioning work.
- At the Fernald and Mound Plant sites in Ohio and the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology site in Colorado, the removal of waste is near completion and remains on track for completion in 2006.

EPA oversees environmental cleanups resulting from past improper hazardous materials/waste handling and disposal operations primarily at Department of Defense installations.

In FY 2004, the number of decision documents (Record of Decision, Record of Decision Amendment, and Explanation of Significant Differences) signed at Federal facilities increased by 40 percent over FY 2003 accomplishments (78 vs. 56). In addition, Federal facilities completed all remedy construction at three other National Priorities List facilities, bringing their total to 43. For all remedial actions or long-term cleanups, program-to-date accomplishments total 603 remedial actions completed at National Priorities List facilities. Approximately 720 remedial projects are still in the pipeline at 135 National Priorities List sites. One facility, the [Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Area](#) in Puerto Rico, was proposed for listing in FY 2004. Approximately 136 interagency and Federal facility agreements are signed for Federal facilities. EPA expects that all Army and Navy bases without an interagency or Federal facility agreement in place at the end of FY 2004 will have one signed by the end of FY 2005.

Streamlining Cleanup Process

In FY 2004, EPA and the Department of Defense initiated a project focusing on streamlining the cleanup processes, paying particular attention to the post-remedies process. EPA is also leading an effort under its One Cleanup Program to reach out and address barriers to cleanup involving other Federal agencies. In early FY 2005, EPA will complete work to improve RCRA/CERCLA integration at Federal facilities, improve interagency coordination at former Department of Defense sites, and between EPA and Federal land managers during the pre-Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study stage, and develop a policy creating joint mining waste repositories.

FIVE-YEAR REVIEW COMPLETED AT A FEDERAL FACILITY

- In September 2004, the Air Force completed second Five-Year Review at the 4,255-acre [Pease Air Force Base](#) in Portsmouth, NH.
- Until 1991, Pease AFB served as a Strategic Air Command bomber and tanker base.
- Contaminants found onsite include trichloroethylene, volatile organic compounds, pesticides, paint, and waste oils.

SINCE THE INCEPTION OF SUPERFUND IN 1980:

- placed 45,826 sites in the data system
- removed 33,695 sites
- retained 12,131 active sites
- listed 1,535 sites on the National Priorities List
- deleted 292 sites from the National Priorities List
- completed 210 sites which are undergoing long-term monitoring

Of 592 sites remaining on the National Priorities List (not yet construction complete), 97.2 percent (576 sites) have activities underway:

- 23.8 percent are in the study phase (141 sites)
- 5.4 percent have a remedy selected (32 sites)
- 10.1 percent have a design underway (60 sites)